

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of July 18, 2005**

1. New Ward 2 Councilmember: On July 18, the City Council appointed Marie Ritzo to the Ward 2 Council seat recently vacated by Heather Mizeur. Councilmember Ritzo can be reached at MarieR@takomagov.org. Welcome Marie! (*Community & Government Liaison*)

2. Farmer's Market Returning to Laurel Avenue (Ward 1): Work on the Laurel Avenue streetscape project has progressed to a point that we will be able to accommodate the Farmer's Market on the site. The market will be returning to its original location this Sunday, July 24. (*Housing and Community Development*)

3. Tenant Opportunity to Purchase (Ward 6): Community Organizer Mario Cristaldo visited Hampshire Towers (7333 and 7401 New Hampshire Avenue) this week to seek out tenants who are interested in attending a future meeting to discuss their rights under the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Law. The owners of Hampshire Towers informed the tenants on July 11th that Tenacity 7333 New Hampshire LLC submitted a contract to buy the property for \$16,640,000. There will probably be two meetings scheduled, one to take place during a weekday evening and the other during the day on a weekend. Notices of the upcoming meetings will be posted in the buildings on each floor. (*Housing and Community Development*)

4. Carroll Avenue Streetscape Improvements (Ward 1): Work continued on the Carroll Avenue streetscape project with all hard scape (sidewalks, steps, driveway aprons) to be excavated over the next few days. (*Housing and Community Development*)

5. Smooth Operator: The third wave of the Smooth Operator program will be in operation next week. The program is conducted on overtime, paid for through a MD SHA grant, focusing on aggressive driving through enforcement of excessive speed, running stop signs and running red lights. (*Police*)

6. C-Safe (Ward 1 & 3): Thursday Chief Creamer, John Brill and Sector Specialist Ofc. Smith attended a meeting on strategies for a C-SAFE program in the areas of the city along the D.C. border (Wards 1 & 3) with the OTRA and WACO civic associations and the DC Advisory Neighborhood Council. Mayor Porter and Councilmember Austin-Lane were also in attendance, as well as a representative of the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee. (*Police*)

7. Takoma-Piney Branch Facility Plan (Wards 4 and 1): The Planning Board will consider the Takoma-Piney Branch Facility Plan sometime in the morning of Thursday, August 4. If you would like to attend, contact Ellen Masciocchi at 301-650-2867 after July 29th to obtain a more specific time for the agenda item. E-mail comments to the Planning Board on the item may be sent to: mcpchairman@mncppcmc.org (*Community & Government Liaison*)